

Catalogue of American Amphibians and Reptiles.

IVERSON, JOHN B. 1983. *Kinosternon oaxacae*.

***Kinosternon oaxacae* Berry and Iverson
Oaxaca Mud Turtle**

Kinosternon oaxacae Pritchard 1979:557. See REMARKS.

Kinosternon oaxacae Smith and Smith 1980:113. Nomen nudum.

Kinosternon oaxacae Berry and Iverson 1980:314. Type-locality, "11.6 km N of Pochutla (San Pedro Pochutla), along Mexican Hwy 175 (ca. 235 m), Oaxaca, Mexico (15°46'N, 96°28'W)." Holotype, Univ. Colorado 48857, adult male, collected on 13 July 1971 by T. Paul Maslin and the University of Colorado Summer Expedition to Oaxaca (examined by author).

• CONTENT. *Kinosternon oaxacae* is a monotypic species.

• DEFINITION. Adult females reach at least 140 mm carapace length; males, 175 mm. The adult carapace is typically tricarinate. The first vertebral scute is usually in contact with the second marginal, and the fourth pleural scute touches the tenth marginal scute. Only the tenth marginal scute is elevated above the level of the remaining marginals. The maximum shell height is less than 40% of the carapace length. The carapace is brown to black or mottled brown and black; the seams are darker in lighter colored specimens. The double hinged plastron is emarginate posteriorly. The width of the plastral forelobe is less than 70% of the carapace width. The maximum width of the plastral hindlobe is less than 60% of the carapace width in males and less than 62% in females. The inter-abdominal seam length is greater than 26% of the maximum plastron length. The interfemoral seam length is more than 24% of the maximum plastral hindlobe length. The bridge length is 22–25% of the carapace length. The axillary and inguinal scutes are in contact across the bridge. The plastron and bridge are usually yellow with brown seams, but sometimes variably stained with brown or black. The skin varies in color from gray to black. The head is mottled dark brown to black and cream to yellow dorsally, and ventrally cream to yellow with a few, faint dark spots. Laterally, these patterns integrate in a reticulated network. Young individuals often have an orange suffusion on the side of the head. The nasal scale is V-shaped or bell-shaped. Three or four pairs of chin barbels are present. Adult females possess lighter chins and short, stubby tails. Males have darker chins and long, thick tails. Both sexes have tail spines and lack tuberculate scales (claspings organs) on the posterior surface of the crus and thigh of each hind leg.

• DESCRIPTIONS. General descriptions are in Pritchard (1979), Berry and Iverson (1980), and Iverson (MS).

• ILLUSTRATIONS. Black and white photographs of adults appear in Smith and Smith (1980), Berry and Iverson (1980), and Iverson (MS).

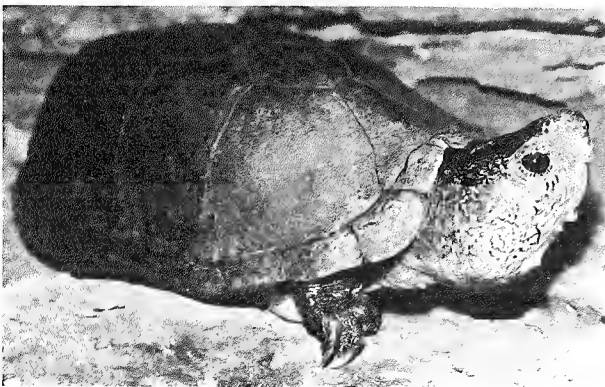


FIGURE 1. Adult male *Kinosternon oaxacae* from Oaxaca, Mexico (J. B. Iverson pers. coll. no. 920).

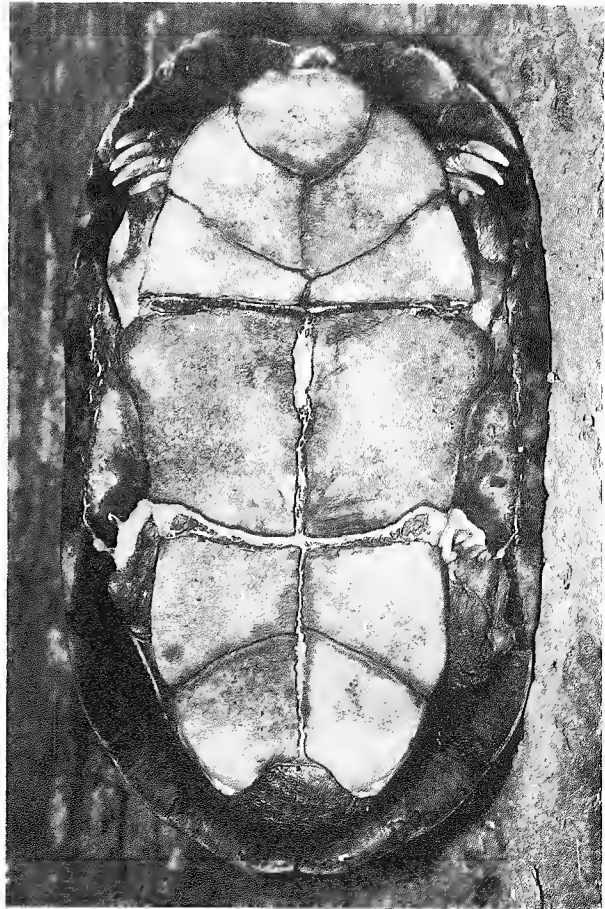
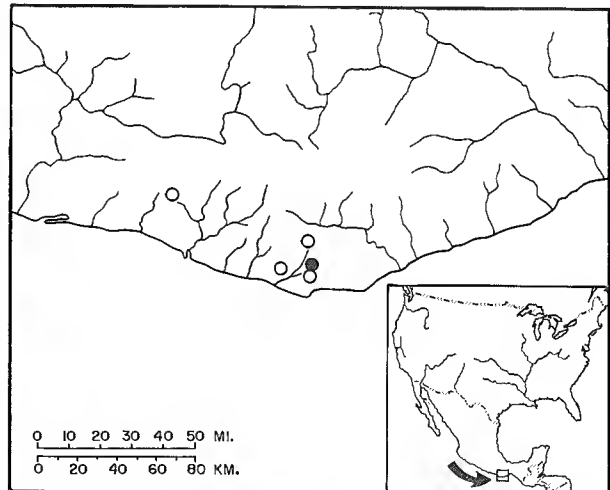


FIGURE 2. Plastron of same specimen as in Figure 1.

• DISTRIBUTION. *Kinosternon oaxacae* is known only from the basins of the Ríos Colotepec and Tonameca of Pacific coastal Oaxaca, Mexico.

• FOSSIL RECORD. None.

• PERTINENT LITERATURE. The only general account of the biology (including habitat, diet, and reproductive data) is in Iverson (MS).



MAP. Solid circle marks type locality, open circles, other localities.

• REMARKS. Attempting to be complete in his review of the world's turtles, Pritchard (1979) inadvertently published a description of *Kinosternon oaxacae* based on excerpts from the submitted manuscript of Berry and Iverson (1980), thereby occupying that name. Pritchard and Pronek (1982) have since petitioned the ICZN to suppress the name as used in Pritchard (1979), and that petition is currently under review. Suppression would make the name available to the rightful authors, Berry and Iverson.

Berry and Iverson (1980) designated an allotype, Amer. Mus. Natur. Hist. 88884, adult female, collected on 12 August 1962 by Roger Conant, 11.3 km N Pochutla, Oaxaca, Mexico.

• ETYMOLOGY. The specific name *oaxacae* is a toponym, and refers to the Mexican state of Oaxaca, the only state from which the species is known.

LITERATURE CITED

- Berry, James F., and John B. Iverson. 1980. A new species of mud turtle, genus *Kinosternon*, from Oaxaca, Mexico. *J. Herpetol.* 14(4):313-320.
- Iverson, John B. MS. Notes on the biology of the Oaxaca mud turtle, *Kinosternon oaxacae*.
- Pritchard, Peter C. H. 1979. Encyclopedia of turtles. T. F. H. Publs., Neptune, New Jersey. 895 p.
- , and N. Pronek. 1982. Request for suppression of *Kinosternon alamosae* and *K. oaxacae* Pritchard, 1979 (Reptilia, Testudines). *Z. N. (S.)* 2339. *Bull. Zool. Nomenclature* 39(3): 212-213.
- Smith, Hobart M., and Rozella B. Smith. 1980. Synopsis of the herpetofauna of Mexico. Vol. VI. Guide to Mexican turtles; Bibliographic Addendum III. John Johnson, North Bennington, Vermont. 1046 p.
- JOHN B. IVERSON, EARLHAM COLLEGE, RICHMOND, INDIANA 47374.
- Primary editor for this account, Carl H. Ernst.
- Published 30 December 1983 and Copyright 1983 by the SOCIETY FOR THE STUDY OF AMPHIBIANS AND REPTILES.